

CREATE Drones Challenge What to Expect at an Event

Registration: Your first stop at a CREATE Drone Challenge Event is the registration table. Here you will need to submit your engineering notebook. You will not be able to register without submitting an engineering notebook so be sure to bring it. Make sure it has your team number clearly marked on the outside front cover. In addition to your drones, add-on equipment, and team-built mechanism, you will need protective eye wear for both pilots. Protective eye wear is mandatory at the arena and whenever working in the pits on equipment that is powered.

Pits: Directly after registration, you will go to find your pit table. Each event handles pit tables differently. Some events may just have you take whatever table is available, some events may mark pit tables with teams numbers. Make sure you ask at the registration table where your team's pit table is located. Each pit table should have access to power. Plug in your batteries, laptops, and any other equipment that needs power/charge. Once settled into the pits, go through an inspection checklist and make sure you have everything ready for inspections. There is a 5 point deduction for not passing inspections on the first pass, so be sure you are ready and that you pass all the items on the inspection checklist. Then make your way to inspections.

Inspections: Find the inspection queuing table and get in line. All inspections are done at the arena. The first stop will be at the sizing table. All of your drones, with add on equipment attached, and team-built mechanisms will be inspected for size. If you pass this first inspection table you will either go directly to the 2nd phase of inspections (this normally only happens if you are one of the first couple of teams that make it to inspections) or you will be given an inspection sequence number. This number is on a lanyard and is to be worn around the neck of one of the pilots. When your sequence number is close to being the next one to be inspected get in line at the phase 2 inspection queuing table. Don't be late, if you miss your turn you will be given a new sequence number which will put you at the end of the line. Remember, you can't do your Solo Flights until you pass inspection.

When your time comes for the 2^{nd} phase of inspections be sure to have your entire team present. Part of this phase of inspection is the team interview. All team members are to be present at team interviews. Once you pass inspections you are free to do your Solo Flights.

Solo Flights: Once you have passed inspections your team may participate in Solo Flights. Although optional, there are awards for the top performer(s) of Solo Flights. Also, they will be very important in alliance selection and other judged awards. It will be impossible for a team to win the Honor Award, CREATE's highest award, without participating in Solo Flights. Each team may take up to two Solo Flights. To participate get in line at the Solo Flight queuing table and follow the instructions of the referee/judges.

Qualification Races: The Event Host will have qualification race lists for each team at least 10 minutes prior to the first race. Check the event schedule to find out when/where you are to receive the race schedule. Remember, this schedule may not be closely adhered to. If races are run well ahead of time, or behind time, it is still up to each team to make sure they get to their race on time.

Alliance Selection: Follow the Event Host's instructions regarding alliance selection. The total number alliances going into the finals will be up to each Event Host.

Elimination Races: Elimination races will be the best of 1 for all elimination races, including the finals. If you do not make the finals, stick around for the 1 v 1 Fun Race!

1 v 1 Fun Races Just before the final elimination match there will be a 30 minute break for the Ref/Judges to deliberate and determine the winners of the various judged awards. During this time all teams that opt in may participate in a just for fun set of 1 v 1 fun races.

Finals/Awards/Closing Ceremony: The event ends with the finals match, closing ceremony and award presentations. Be sure to stick around and receive your awards, or cheer on those that do.